

***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. Claims 1-7, 21-22, 8-20, and 23-25 are allowed, and renumbered as 1-25.

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John Curtin on 10/21/2008.

In claim 1, line 2, "operable" is deleted.

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In claim 2, line 2, "operable" is deleted.

In claim 5, line 2, "operable" is deleted.

In claim 6, line 2, "operable" is deleted.

In claim 8, line 1, "operable" is deleted.

In claim 8, line 1, "receive traffic traveling along a bi-directional LSP in a forward direction to an alternate path in the forward direction;" is added after the word "to:".

In claim 8, line 2, "along the alternative path in the forward direction" is added after the word "message".

In claim 16, line 1, "receive traffic traveling along a bi-directional LSP in a forward direction to an alternate path in the forward direction;" is added after the word "of:".

In claim 16, line 2, "along the alternative path in the forward direction" is added after the word "message".

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the following paragraph of the specification. Applicant includes herewith an Attachment for Specification Amendments showing a marked up version of the replacement paragraph.

Page 1:

<sup>0004</sup>  
~~[0003]~~ Existing MPLS Fast Re-routing techniques are effective in re-routing SB 12-5-08  
MPLS labeled traffic in an LSP acting independently relative to other LSPs.  
However, when LSPs are bundled together to operate in two directions, such as  
in bi-directional LSPs disclosed in U.S. Patent Application No. 10/613,104,  
MPLS Fast Re-routing does not perform well.